(b) Distribution of relief on ground is the responsibility of the State/UT Governments which are required to keep proper account. The State are also required to submit a monthly statement of expenditure details to the Ministry of Home Affairs. The Accountants General also scrutinize the accounts of the respective States.

(c) For the Tsunami disaster no external assistance for immediate relief and response has been accepted by the Government because of the availability of resources within the country.

(d) It is proposed to enact a law on Disaster Management to provide for the requisite institutional mechanism and powers for undertaking the prevention and mitigation measures as also mechanism for ensuring preparedness, capacity building and coordinating response for various kinds of disasters. The central legislation *inter alia* provides for the constitution of a National Disaster Management Authority.

Inter-State crimes

1616. SHRITTV. DHINAKARAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the dacoity and murder by Inter-State gangs are on the increase in the country;

(b) whether Government are aware of the limitations of the State Governments in bringing such culprits to book; and

(c) what steps Government propose to take to curb such Inter-State crimes?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MANIKRAO GAVIT): (a) to (c) As per the information available with the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), the number of cases of dacoity and murder reported in the country during the years 2001 to 2003 were as follows:

Sl.No.		2001	2002	2003
1.	Dacoity	6154	6101	5303
2.	Murder	36202	35290	32716

The incidents of dacoity and murder have declined during the year 2003 compared with previous years 2001 and 2002. Specific information regarding dacoity and murder by Inter-State Gangs is not maintained centrally.

'Police' and 'Public Order' are state subjects as per the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution of India and therefore, detection, registration, investigation and prevention of crimes including dacoity and murder by Inter-State gangs are primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. However, the Government of India has, from time to time, been advising the State Governments to give more focused attention to improving the administration of criminal justice system and to take effective measures to control the crimes. The Union Government has also been providing financial assistance to the State Governments under the scheme of Modernisation of State Police Forces with a view to equip them with modern weaponry, State of the art Communication systems, vehicles, intelligence gathering equipment, protective gear etc. to enable the State police to meet the present day challenges.

Loans for self-employment to Tsunami affected women

1617. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the total loan provided to women affected by Tsunami for setting up of their homes and self-employment work; and

(b) the number of installments, the loanee have to repay the loans?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. REGUPATHY): (a) and (b) The Government have approved a special package of Rs. 3644.05 crore named as "Rajiv Gandhi Rehabilitation Package for Tsunami affected areas" which *inter-alia* includes relief assistance, temporary shelters and a provision for pucca houses. As regards self-employment, the Ministries/Departments of the Government of India *viz.,* Tribal Affairs, Social Justice & Empowerment, Women & Child Development and Rural Development, through their various schemes, will be facilitating the self-employment of the women affected by Tsunami.

Financial assistance to Kerala for rehabilitation of Tsunami victims

1618. SHRI N.K. PREMACHANDRAN: Will the Minister of HOMEAFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government issued any directions to the Tsunami affected State Governments relating to the limit of expenses and nature of house to be constructed for the rehabilitations purpose;